

Scripture readings for this week

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**Romans 8:6-11**

**Psalm 130**

**John 11:1-45**

Life to dry bones! Very dry bones!

Ezekiel describes the bones to us in verse 2b; *there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were **very** dry.*

God asks him, "Son, of man, can these bones live?" "O Lord GOD, You know."

Ezekiel replies.

The Lord then gives a word directive to Ezekiel. *"Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!"*

Now look at verse 7: *So I prophesied as I was commanded; and **as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone on bone.***

This valley of dry bones that had been blown about and perhaps dragged around by wild animals for who knows how long, knew where they belonged! The scripture says they came together bone on bone; femur, patella, tibia, fibula.

A wrist bone knew where it belonged, the hipbone knew where it belonged and so on!!

And the story continues; GOD's word spoken, brought life in its fullness to these dry bones; sinew and flesh and finally BREATH.

Breath, the final element that brought life!

Genesis tells us that; God breathed into Adam and he became a LIVING being!

GOD the Holy Spirit; the part of the Godhead that carries **His** breath to us and causes us to live fully!

Verse 14a "I will put **My Spirit** in you, and **you shall live ....** "

Finally Jesus tells us in verse 25 of John 11 ***"I am the resurrection and the life, He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."***

John 11:44

And he who had died came out ...

Three of the scripture readings this week foreshadow the redemptive power of Christ in His resurrection. Each happening before the cross.

Psalms 130 is a song of Ascents (a going up). It's entitled in my Bible WAITING FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE LORD

The bones (representing Israel), were waiting for the redemption of the LORD.

Lazarus in the tomb was waiting for the redemption of the LORD.

Friends, We are on this side of the cross. The work has been finished and we are only asked to believe and receive that redemption.

Romans 8:10 and 11 says; And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also ***give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. KJV***

But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

***NIVUK***

***Amen!***